

# A Collector's Guide to Postage & Fractional Currency Price Guide Update

Single Copy Price \$10.00

Volume 4, Issue 3 September 2010

### Emergency Measures Postage Stamps-Civil War Tokens-Fractional Currency

With the start of the Civil War and the banks stopping specie payments (no more coins for paper money), the hording of coins started. There soon was no change to make change!

Stamps that were used to make change became unusable, by sticking together and just falling apart. To help solve this, some put stamps into small envelopes (72 x 36mm). They had the amount of the stamps inside on the envelope. Many had advertising on them. The amounts went from 10 cents up to 1 dollar. Today most are just the front panels of the envelopes which are still rare. Complete envelopes are very rare to unique!

On August 12th 1862, John Gault got a U.S. patent to "Encase" postage stamps within a round brass holder that had a thin layer of clear mica over the face of the stamp to protect it, and you could still see the stamp. To make a profit Gault sold advertising on the back. Thirty four different merchants bought advertising. All of these are very scarce to very rare. This was too little too late. In September of 1862 postage currency started to be issued to the public.

By the spring of 1863 postage currency had replaced most of the makeshift change. Some private issue of Fractional Paper was still out there, but it was only good locally, in that city or at the merchant only. These would be stopped by the law of April 22, 1864. The one coin that postage currency had not replaced was the cent, which was important in everyday use. Many merchants were driven to find a circulating medium for the cent. Tokens the size of our current cent made mostly of copper were the answer. They were known in those days as "Copper Heads" and today as "Civil War Tokens". They were readily accepted as a I cent coin everywhere. There are two principal types, the "Store Cards" and the "Patriotic Tokens"!

The Patriotic Tokens had a Patriotic theme like "Army & Navy", "Union Forever", etc. The Store Card type carried the name and the address of a business (a store), on one side, and an advertising message on the other. The making of the tokens was profitable, for one cents worth of material produced five one cent tokens. Some 396 towns in 23 states produced Civil War Tokens. There have been about 11,000 varieties of Civil War Tokens identified.

Out of all those only one said anything on it about postage or fractional currency. That rare token is "The New York Store" in Waterbury Connecticut on one side. The other side says, "Redeemable in Sums of 5 cents or more Postage Currency".

The law of April 22, 1864 prohibited individuals or any cities from issuing or passing, any paper, coins, or tokens etc. in any was as money of any kind. This law saw the end to Civil War Token production. They circulated for just about another year till the end of the Civil War.



Fractional Currency would still be issued and circulated for many years later. Even after the law of April 17, 1876 that directed fractionals be redeemed with silver coins. A total of \$368,724,079.45 of Postage and Fractional Currency was issued which helped pay for the Civil War! The last official government estimate was 1925 when they said that just \$5,000,000 was still outstanding. That's less than  $1^{1}/_{2}\%$  of the total issued. So how much can be left today?

Enjoy your notes!

Rob Kravitz

Issue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU				S-GEM (66)	Description
" Issue	1228	45	70	125	175	300				64 = 750
	1229	70	95	170	250	375	625	1100	1600	
5¢	1230	30	45	50	65	125	300	500	650	
	1231	50	75	125	200	395	550	895	1200	
- 270	1240	7.5	110	175	300	425	750	1000	1400	64 = 900
10¢	1241	80	125	200	300	450	950	1200		
	1242	30	50	70	75	125	225	495	700	64 = 295
	1243	100	125	250	350	450		1400		
	1279	50	75	125	195	300				
25¢	1280	100	200	295	395	500				64 = 1220 (Just 3 Gem Known)
234	1281	30	50	70	110	195				(00000000000000000000000000000000000000
	1282	100	125	195	395	550				
	1310	75	110	300	500	695			2500	64 = 1100
504	1311	100	210	350	550	750				101
50¢	1312	39	65	90	125	195				67 = 950
				395	595	900			030	64 = 2000
nd -	1313	145	250	45	50	75			505	67 = 795 68 = 995
<sup>nd</sup> Issue	1232	25	35	70	95	125				07 - 793 00 - 993
	1233	30	50							
5¢	1234	35	70	90	125	170				
	1235	75	200	300	575	825				
10¢	1244	25	35	50	75	125				
	1245	20	50	75	110	155				
	1246	32	65	100	125	250				
	1247	75	110	175	250	325				67 = 1400 68 = 1800
	1248	350	1000	1700	2300	2700				
	1249	100	175	350	450	650				
	1283	30	50	79	125	225	290			* * 2nd Issue Notes with Blurred Surcharges * *
	1284	32	65	120	200	300				* * are worth 20% Less
25¢	1285	35	69	100	125	225	325			
·	1286	35	59	100	175	300	450	900		
	1288	75	110	150	250	395	425	1200		
	1289	100	125	195	350	700	900	1800		
	1290	90	150	200	295	550				64 = 1100
	1316	35	70	100	170	325				
50¢	1317	35	70	100	145	325				
200	1318	50	75	125	210	350				
	1320	75	110	200	295	450				
	1321	90	200	450	700	900				
		75	110	175	295	450				
rd	1322	35	50	95	- 100	- 145				
I <sup>rd</sup> Issue	1226					295				
3¢	1227	70	100	145	195	295				
	1236	30	50	110	195					Clanear
5¢	1237	35	70	135	250	425				Sleeper
	1238	25	45	90	100	155	200	450		

ssue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU			<b>GEM (65)</b>	S-GEM (66)	Description
	1239	35	70	95	125	175		650	13-11	
	1251	35	65	100	125	250		700		
	1252	45	70	125	200	395		1200		Sleeper
10¢	1253	90	120	175	200	300		900		
	1254	100	125	200	275	450		1000		
	1255	25	45	50	65	- 90	139	500	700	Only 3 Known of the FR1255A 70,000 to 160,000
	1256	39	55	75	100	195	325	550	750	
	1291	50	75	120	225	300	595	900	1200	64 = 795
	1292	70	90	155	250	350	900	1100	1400	64 = 995
25¢	1294	30	50	70	- 90	120		500		
D158	1295	35	70	100	115	200		595	900	
	1296	700	1400	2000	2900	4300	6500	9000		Rare 67 = 14000
	1297	46	75	125	300	450			11000	11000
	1298	55	100	225	450	700		2000	2700	67 = 3600
	1299	450	900	1400	1995	2100		4300	2100	01 - 3000
	1300	900	2000	4100	4800	5900		4500		Rare
-		100	125	200	300	495		1000	1200	
stice	1343	500	750	1600	3200	3500		7000	1200	
50.1	1344				350	500		1000		
50¢	1345	100	125	200						
	1346	100	125	200	395	525		995		
	1347	100	125	200	395	525				
	1348	600	1200	1800	2300	3000				Rare
	1349	100	210	350	495	595				64 = 995
	1350	135	250	425	595	795				Rare
	1351		7000	10000	14000	19000	30000			Very Rare Finest Known is a MS64
	1352		50000	70000		4		125-130K		Only 3 Known Extremely Rare
	1353		9000	12900	15000	21000				very Rare
	1354		11000	16000	20000	23000	29000			Very Rare
	1355	110	175	250	350	495				
	1356	125	225	325	495	595	750	1400		
	1357	200	575	825	1400	2000	3200	9000		64 = 5500 Only 1 GEM known
	1358	100	120	195	225	450	750	1500		
	1359	450	900	1400	1800	2300				Just 25 Known CU or Better, only 1 GEM
	1360	78	100	200	350	495				
	1361	100	125	225	375	550				
	1362	100	125	225	325	475				
	1363	135	275	425	625	825				
	1364	100	115	175	350	595				
	1365	100	125	200	325	495				
	1366	100	200	300	395	550		1200		
		750	1600	2000	3000	5000				Clooper
	1367			525	700	900				Sleeper
	1368	200	450 525							
	1369	250		650	795	900				
	1370	155	300	375	500	895	1200	1900		

Issue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU					Description
	1371		1600	2000	3000	4500		19000		
	1372		350	450	795	1000	1600	2500		
	1373		+370	450	795	1000	1600	3000		
	1373A				46000					9 Known AUs at best
Spinner	1324		125	170	200	450	650	1000		64 = 795
	1325	375	425	550	700	975	1200	2500	3400	67 = 3600
	1326		135	195	220	325	550	1000		
	1327		135	195	275	395	595	1200	A 100 A	
	1328	A CONTRACTOR	200	300	395	550	900	1700	1800	
	1329		250	350	450	700	900	1800	2700	
701401	1330		2000	2500	3200	4600	5700	8300	1000	
	1331	75	100	125	200	395		895		
	1332	ST THE ST	120	175	250	425		1000		
	1333	75	100	135	200	295		895	340	
	1334		95	110	200	375		900		
	1335	100	95	125	300	450		995		
	1336		2300	2700	3000	3600		7900		
	1337		150	250	350	750		1600		Sleeper
	1338	-	120	195	300	650		1400		Sleeper
	1339		100	155	225	325		800	1000	64 = 650
	1340	125	200	300	495	900		1800		04 - 030
	1341	75	110	175	250	395		900		
	1342	75	125	225	395	550		1200		
I <sup>th</sup> Issue	1257	13	50	70	90	125		495	605	67 = 900 68 = 1100
	1257		55	95	125	175		450		07 - 900 00 - 1100
10¢	1259	-	50	75	120	145		450		
	1261		55	95	125	175		450		
		50	75	125	175	250		595		
154	1267 1268	50	500	700	900	1200		595		
15¢	1269		80	145	195	275		795		
	1271		100	175	200	295		695		
251	1301		50	79	139	175 225		650		
25¢	1302		50	100	155			700		
	1303		55	125	250	325		795		
-	1307		60	100	200	300		700		
	1374	200	300	475	595	700		2500		VCHCU (64) = 1600
50¢	1376	75	110	145	190	350		750	Land State of	64 = 550
	1379	70	95	125	180	225		550		
th Issue	1264		65	75	100	155		795		64 = 450
10¢	1265		39	46	60	85		250		64 = 175
	1266		39	46	50	80		225		64 = 175
25¢	1308	1	43	55	65	- 70		350		64 = 179 67 = 650
	1309	100	41	45	50	- 59		300		64 = 170
50¢	1381	25	- 35	75	- 90	125	250	500	700	64 = 395

Issue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)	S-GEM (66)	Description
					in the	-			10. 10.	
	14070				pecimens	750	4100	1600	2000	Front Narrow Margin printed sigs 67 = 3000
rant/Sherman	1272spnmf			300 500	375 595	750 750	1100 2100	1600 3000		Front Wide Margin printed sigs 67 = 3000
	1272spwmf			125	200	300	450	595		Green Back Narrow Margin
7.5 /	1272spnmb				375	425	750	1000		Green Back Wide Margin
15¢	1272spwmb			250		2500	3600	5900		
	1273spnmf				1400	495	1200	1900	7000	Front Narrow Margin only sigs Colby/Spinner Front Narrow Margin auto sigs Jeffries/Spinner
	1274spnmf				350			3200		
	1274spwmf				700	895	2300			Front Wide Margin auto sigs Jefferies/Spinner
	1275spnmf				500	700	1100	2000		Front Narrow Margin auto sigs Allison/Spinner
	1275spwmf				795	995	2600	3400		Front Wide Margin auto sigs Allison/Spinner
	1273spnmb			200	250	395	450	700		RED Back Narrow Margin
	1273spwmb			350	900	1800	2300	2700	3000	RED Back Wide Margin
	1276spnmf						18K			Front Narrow Margin No Signatures 1 Known
	1276spwmb						30K			Front Wide Margin No Signatures 1 Known
Issue	1231spnmf	Laborator B.	and the	-	75	125	175	395		Narrow Margin Front
	1231spwmf			1	175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Front 67 = 1250
5¢	1231spnmb				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1231spwmb		15/200		175	600	450	650		Wide Margin Back 67 = 1250
	1243spnmf				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Front
10¢	1243spwmf				175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Front
	1243spnmb				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1243spwmb				175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Back
	1282spnmf				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Front
25¢	1282spwmf	1000			175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Front
	1282spnmb		Control of		75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1282spwmb	7.2			175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Back 67 = 1400
	1313spnmf				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Front
50¢	1313spwmf				225	425	600	100		Wide Margin Front
	1313spnmb				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1313spwmb				175	300	550	900		Wide Margin Back 67 = 1100
Issue	1232spnmf		779 784		75	175	200	395	500	Narrow Margin Front
5¢	1232spwmf	100000			175	300	450	650	750	Wide Margin Front
	1232spnmb		1 4 2		75	175	200	395	500	Narrow Margin Front
	1232spwmb		9	10	175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Back
	1244spnmf				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Front
10¢	1244spwmf				175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Front
. 50	1244spnmb				75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1244spwmb				175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Back
	1283spnmf	1075	1		75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Front
25¢	1283spwmf		EVASES		175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Front
250	1283nmb	1-1-1-	The same		75	125	200	395		Narrow Margin Back
	1283wmb	47/60	USTALL	100	175	300	450	650		Wide Margin Back
A	1314spnmf			-	75	125		395		Narrow Margin Front

ssue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)		Description
50¢	1314spwmf				200	350				Wide Margin Front
	1314spnmb				75	125				Narrow Margin Back
	1314spwmb				300	.500			1400	Wide Margin Back
rd Issue	1226spwmf	July John S		E TILLE	5000	7000	9000		121 121	Wide Margin Front Only 3 Known
3¢	1226spnmf	E 2745		7-7/11-17	75	125	200			Narrow Margin Front
	1227spnmf	PERSON	- CONT	15	75	125	200			Narrow Margin Front
	1227spwmf	1	DOY INC. WY		175	450				Wide Margin Front
	1226spwmb		William William		250	350				Wide Margin Back Same Note as 1227spwmb
-	1226spnmb	The Carried States		6 1	100	195				Narrow Margin Back Same Note as 1227spnmb
	1236spnmf				100	195				Narrow Margin Front
5¢	1236spwmf				250	350				Wide Margin Front
	1236spnmb				100	195	250	395		Narrow Margin Red Back
	1236spwmb				200	395	550			Wide Margin Red Back
	1238spnmb				100	125	250	395		Narrow Margin Green Back
	1238spwmb				195	295	395	700		Wide Margin Green Back
12680	1251spnmf	200	-		100	125	250	395	-1-0	Printed Signatures Narrow Margin Frong
10¢	1251spwmf		-		225	325	450	700		Printed Signatures Wide Margin Frong
	1253spnmf			The Later	100	190	295			Autographed Sigs, Narrow Margin Front
	1253spwmf	- 135	110-1-		250	500	700	900	1100	Autographed Sigs, Wide Margin Front
	1254spnmf	200 miles		La SULL	295	395	495	750		Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Narrow Margin Front
	1254spwmf	1 10 mm	10 D	- 1 (m)	3000	3900	5000	9000		Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Wide Margin Front
	1255spnmb	40			100	150			A	Narrow Margin Green Back
	1255spwmb	200			200	325			Vet TIE	Wide Margin Green Back
	1251-4spnmb	-			100	150	250	395		Narrow Margin Red Back
	1251-4spwmb		Ten Land		295	395				Wide Margin Red Back
	1294spnmf				100	125				Narrow Margin Front
25¢	1294spwmf				225	325	500	700		Wide Margin Front
	1291spnmb				110	150	275	425		Narrow Margin Red Back
	1291spwmb				225	350	550	700	900	Wide Margin Red Back
	1294spnmb				100	125	250	395		Narrow Margin Green Back
	1294spwmb				225	350	550	700		Wide Margin Green Back
Justice	1343spnmf	7-1	F 10	- D	100	125	250	395		Printed sigs, Narrow Margin Front
50¢	1343spwmf	and the latest			225	350	550	750		Printed sigs, Wide Margin Front
	1355spnmf	0.00	10000	I JES	250	350	500	900		Auto sigs, Colby & Spinner Narrow Margin Front
	1355spwmf	100 - 1-	1	1000	500	700	900	1200	1600	Auto sigs, Colby & Spinner Wide Margin Front
	1357spnmf		The same of		300	500				Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Narrow Margin Front
	1357spwmf	1000	100000	-	5900	9000			1	Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Wide Margin Front
Spinner	1324spnmf				100	200			595	Printed sigs, Narrow Margin Front 67=795, 68=995
50¢	1324spwmf				225	350				Printed sigs, Wide Margin Front
500	1328spnmf				150	300				Auto sigs, Colby & Spinner Narrow Margin Front
	1328spwmf				350	700				Auto sigs, Colby & Spinner Wide Margin Front
	1329spnmf				3000	4500				Auto sigs, Allison & Spinner Narrow Margin Front
	1329spwmf				9000	14500				Auto sigs, Allison & Spinner Wide Margin Front
	1330spnmf				250					Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Narrow Margin Front

Issue	FR#	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	<b>GEM (65)</b>	S-GEM (66) Description
	1330spwmf				3500	7000	9000		Augo sigs Jeffries & Spinner Wide Margin Front
	1331spnmb				100	125	250	395	Narrow Margin Green Back Type 1
	1331spwmb				225	350	550	750	Wide Margin Green Back Type 1
	1328-30spnmb				175	250	395	495	Narrow Margin Red Back Type 1
	1328-30spwmb				350	450	750	1100	Wide Margin Red Back Type 1
	1339spnmb				3000	4500	5900	9000	Narrow Margin Type 2 Back
	1339spwmb				4500	5500	7900	10000	Wide Margin Type 2 Back
THU S	The sales of	1000	0000	Full Unc	ut Sheets	1	Charles Print	Contract of the last of the la	
1st Issue									
5¢	1230				2600	3200	4000	5000	Full Sheet = 20 Notes
10¢	1242	7/10/19	THE CALL		3900	4500	5000	5900	Full Sheet = 20 Notes
25¢	1281				3900	4500	5000		
50€	1312	31710	Acres 6	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4300	5000	7000	12000	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Issue									
5¢	1232				2800	3200	3500	4100	Full Sheet = 20 Notes
10¢	1244	Victorial Control		V===271=0	3000	3400	3700	4300	
25¢	1283				3200	3600	3900	4600	
50¢	1316			the state of	3800	4500	5000	6500	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Issue		_							
3¢	1226			2500	3000	4500	7000	9000	Full Sheet = 25 Notes
3,0	1227			11000	- 5555				Full Sheet = 25 Notes, Only 3 Known
	1227			11000	2000				Block of 6
	1221	-		1	2000				Diodit of o
	STATE OF THE PARTY	17 To 16	1200000	Origina	Bundles	T	17.00	06000	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON OF T
4 <sup>th</sup> Issue				- Origina	Danaido				
10¢	1259						7500	10000	50 Notes Only 2 Known
50¢	1379		200	-	1/18/10	+3600	4800		
5 <sup>th</sup> Issue	1310						,,,,,,,		
10¢	1266					3000	5000	9000	50 Notes
25¢	1309	-DE 1815	No.	Carlot Marie	11 4 1 11	3300	57.00		
50¢	1381					3200	4100		
200	1.501		L			0200	1,00	. 500	
10 1 ST 5"		2	Fractio	onal Current	y Shields	ELLO ES	150000	See See	
GRAY	1382			2000	3000	4000	5K 6K	7K 9K	
PINK	1383			3000	7000	10000	14K 16K	18K 20K	Pink Background 23-27 Known
GREEN	1384			9000	10000	18000	23K 30K	38K 50K	

Gray Shields were sold to the public (mostly banks) between June 1867 thru June 1868 @ \$4.50 each, unframed. Total sales of Shields was only \$14,683.50, so that comes out to just 3,263 shields sold.

## Buying & Selling



#### **Quality US Fractional Currency**

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